

The meeting was called to order by the Mr. Croston at 5:35 PM.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** David Croston, Chair; Terri Cortvriend, Vice Chair; Thomas Vadney, Clerk; Emily Copeland; Fred Faerber; and Andrew Kelly

**Also Present:** Dr. Lynn Krizic, Superintendent; Christopher DiIuro, Director of Finance and Administration (6:50 PM); and Jeffrey Schoonover, Interim Director of Instruction and Assessment (7:00 PM); and Joseph Quinn, Little Compton School Committee Liaison (7:00 PM)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** John Wojichowski

A motion was made by Ms. Cortvriend and was seconded by Mr. Kelly to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to R.I. Law 42-46-5, Exceptions (a)(1) Job Performance/Personnel Matters; and (a)(2) Collective Bargaining and/or Litigation. So voted 6-0.

Public Session recessed at 5:35 PM and resumed at 7:06 PM.

1. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT & SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMUNICATION:**

Mr. Croston reported that an Executive Session was held prior to the meeting. Employee A had filed a ULP complaint and a discrimination claim. Employee A settled for 40,000. In addition, the School Committee voted to have Attorney Christopher Behan and Dr. David Larson perform a 360 evaluation of the Superintendent. Mr. Croston read Dr. Larson's resume. The Committee voted to pay up to \$5,000 for Attorney Behan's and Dr. Larson's services. The Committee also voted to withdraw the ULP 5996 appeal regarding teachers requiring MCAST certification. Mr. Croston read the Labor Board order. A motion was made by Ms. Cortvriend and was seconded by Mr. Kelly to seal the minutes of the Executive Session. So voted 6-0.

Mr. Croston discussed the Portsmouth Prevention Coalition report. He is concerned about drug use at PMS and PHS, especially regarding the move to harder drugs. Ray Davis, Coordinator of the Portsmouth Prevention Coalition, described the report. It was a community-wide approach. The coalition interviewed more than 1200 students, focus groups with students and parents, and interviews with key town officials, including the Police Chief. They also reached out to Little Compton. Little Compton contributed \$500 for the project. Mr. Croston complimented Mr. Littlefield on this effort; and Joseph Quinn commended the School Committee and PHS Administration on this effort.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mr. Fitzmorris commented on drug issue and supports the Committee's efforts.

3. **SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMUNICATION**

- A. Superintendent's Weekly Update: Dr. Krizic responded to questions raised regarding her Superintendent's Weekly Update.

4. **APPROVAL OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES**

- A. March 4, 2013 Public Session: A motion was made by Ms. Cortvriend and was seconded by Mr. Faerber to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2013, meeting. So voted 5-0-1. Mr. Kelly abstained.
- B. March 11, 2013 Public Session: A motion was made by Ms. Cortvriend and was seconded by Mr. Faerber to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2013, meeting. So voted 5-0-1. Mr. Kelly abstained.
- C. March 12, 2013 Public Session: A motion was made by Ms. Cortvriend and was seconded by Mr. Faerber to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2013, meeting. So voted 6-0.

5. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Human Resources Clerk Resignation – Susan Fairhurst
- B. Request for Leave of Absence

A motion was made by Ms. Cortvriend and was seconded by Mr. Faerber to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. So voted 6-0.

6. **BUSINESS AGENDA**

- A. Approve Full Day Kindergarten for FY14: A motion was made by Ms. Cortvriend and was seconded by Mr. Faerber to approve implementing full day kindergarten for the FY2014 school year. So voted 6-0. Dr. Krizic gave a Powerpoint presentation explaining the rationale for All Day Kindergarten (ADK). The new FTEs net at 2.7 for next year (a decreased from 3.5). Costs include \$24,000 for supplies for three classrooms; \$30,000 for equipment for three classrooms; \$30,000 for technology for three classrooms; and \$4,500 for 140 hours of curriculum writing and professional development. August 27<sup>th</sup> will be the first day of ADK. Mr. Croston commended Mrs. Copeland for her efforts in this matter as chair of the Strategic Plan Subcommittee. Mrs. Copeland stated that there will be a savings of \$140,000 per year because of the elimination of the mid-day bus runs. She wants to track the effects of ADK. Dr. Krizic stated that registration roundup will be held at both elementary schools on April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, and parents of students already registered will be notified of the change to ADK. Mr. Fitzmorris stated his concerns with ADK. He inquired about the costs of implementation.

Mr. Croston estimated \$167,400 total salary - \$147,000 bus savings + 3 x \$20,000 equals about \$150,000. The motion passed 6-0.

- B. Approve the re-bidding of the Fire Alarm/Suppression Renovation for Melville School: A motion was made by Ms. Cortvriend and was seconded by Mr. Faerber to approve the re-bidding of the fire alarm and suppression renovation at Melville School. Seconded by Mr. Kelly. Dr. Krizic recommended an amendment to reject the first round of bids from March 6<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Croston rejected the proposed amendment. Mr. Kelly made a motion to reject the first round of bids. Seconded by Mr. Faerber. So voted 5-1. Mrs. Copeland was opposed. Ms. Cortvriend made a motion to approve the re-bidding of the fire alarm and suppression renovation at Melville School. Seconded by Mr. Kelly. So voted 5-1. Mrs. Copeland was opposed.
- C. Report on Expenditure/Revenue for PHS Inauguration Trip: Mr. James Wilkinson, member of the PHS Band Boosters, presented the School Committee with a photograph of the trip to Washington, DC. Mr. Wilkinson reported on the expenses of the trip. The total cost was \$82,795.54. Donations from the public were \$54,158. The School Committee donated \$19,000. The student and chaperone payments totaled \$16,600. Donations totaled \$89,758. The funds remaining are \$6,962.46. The Boosters want to keep the extra funds to replace the marimbas (an instrument). The \$13,000 cost for uniforms was split by the Boosters and students. The Boosters raise approximately \$20,000 annually. He described their fundraising efforts. A motion was made by Ms. Cortvriend and was seconded by Mr. Faerber to allow the Band Boosters to keep the \$6,962.46 surplus for the purchase of marimbas. Mr. Kelly protested the request because it was not properly posted on the agenda for the vote to take place. Mr. Croston overruled. The motion passed 6-0.
- D. Approve transfer of funds to purchase math textbooks for Melville and PHS: A motion was made by Ms. Cortvriend to authorize the transfer of funds from Object Code 51110 Regular Salaries to 56401 Textbooks for the purchase of math textbooks for Melville School in the amount of \$42,000; and transferring 51110 Regular Salaries to 56401 Textbooks to purchase geometry textbooks for PHS in the amount of \$23,000. Seconded by Mr. Faerber. So voted 6-0.

## 7. **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. Strategic Plan: Mrs. Copeland reported about visits to Melville and Hathaway. Visits to PMS and PHS are being planned.
- B. Technology: Mr. Vadney reported that he is planning to send out an email to schedule the next meeting.

Portsmouth School Committee  
March 26, 2013  
Public Session

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Kelly and was seconded by Ms. Cortvriend to adjourn the meeting. So voted 6-0.

Respectfully submitted:

Patti Cofield  
Recording Secretary for:

Thomas Vadney, Clerk